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Amendment To The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-7. (Canceled).

8. (currently amended) A method for managing the annotation of a document comprising:

obtaining an original document;

making an original electronic version of the document available to an annotation manager system;

associating the original electronic version of the document with digital paper;

receiving a plurality of annotations from a plurality of team members each using a hardcopy of the original electronic version of the document that was printed on the associated digital paper;

receiving annotation author identification data for identifying associating each of the plurality of annotations with the team member who created the annotation;

obtaining hierarchal permission data for each team member;

determining for each annotation if such annotation is an authorized annotation using the hierarchal permission data;

associating each authorized annotation with a location in the original electronic version of the document;

creating a new annotated version of the original electronic version of the document incorporating the authorized annotations;

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parsing the annotations for at least one editing command;

~~The method of claim 7, further including:~~

determining an authorization level for the at least one editing command; and

if the authorization level for the at least one editing command is below an

authorization threshold, converting the at least one editing command into an

annotation.

9. (canceled).

10. (previously amended) The method of claim 8, further including:

converting non-priority editing commands into annotations.

11. – 20. (Canceled).

21. (previously presented) A method for managing the annotation of a
document comprising:

obtaining an original document;

making an original electronic version of the document available to an
annotation manager system;

associating the original electronic version of the document with digital paper;

receiving a plurality of annotations from a plurality of team members each

using a hardcopy of the original electronic version of the document that was printed

on the associated digital paper;

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receiving annotation author identification data for identifying associating each

of the plurality of annotations with the team member who created the annotation;

associating each annotation with a location in the original electronic version of

the document;

obtaining hierarchal priority data for the team members;

determining if any two of the annotations overlap, and if so, selecting one of

the two overlapping annotations using the hierarchal data;

creating a new annotated version of the original electronic version of the

document incorporating the non-overlapping annotations and the selected

overlapping annotations.